# HAMATEURGHATTER

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Vol. 13 No. 03 - March, 2005

### President's Letter

Folks, as most of you figured out, the purpose of the exercise (all the sign up sheets at the meeting at the January meeting) was to gather information about our membership - what you expect from the club - what you expect from your membership in the club - and conversely - what you expect to give of yourself to the club. I was told about another club - different type of club from ours... But they had similar problems getting people to participate. They increased their dues to a "painful level" then gave those members who participated and initiated activities, credits for those activities so that they ended up paying a lower amount of "dues" then members who just came along for the ride...

It's a tough premise - would be hard to administer and keep track of all the various "discounts"... But if it would get you participating then it might be worth the investmen of time... We'll think about it.

It is difficult for those of us on the board to figure out our next trick to keep you excited about the club. We have tried several things with mixed results... Don't worry - we'll keep trying. Do your part though

and tell us what you'd like!

Brian made a great effort to get us to respond and sign up for the tour of the Weather Center. It was a wonderful tour and a great group activity! More than half of those present were actually club member and or spouses. The tour was informative and entertaining! From the feed-back received - we can say it was a success!

On a different note - we are definitely back into the educational business! We have a tech class going and Howard is doing a great job with it! He prepares well and has kept the pace going for all of the students - we do need some help and participation for the next few class sessions. Please ask Howard how you can help.

This is a short one, as far as Prez letters go. I've been "extra" busy with my work for the last month or so... Shows no sign of letting up either, but I insist on making time for my hobby and avocation! Just not a whole lot of time.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting! Show up and shake hands!

73 De

AMORA!

Patrick, W9UQ

## I GOOFED!

I am sorry and apologize for the mistakes and inaccuracies in the February issue of the 'Chatter. I had a corrected version which was side-by-side with the file that went out. I mistakenly sent out the

wrong file when it came to Emailing the file for printing and circulating.

If anyone wishes, I will e-mail them one of the corrected file, please let me know. I shall endeavor to do better in the future.

Pando

### **MRAC Officers**

President
Patrick Moretti` W9UQ
Vice Pres.

Howard Parks
Secretary

Brian White K9LCQ

Treasurer

Tom Schulte AB9EK

### **Board of Directors**

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Hal Newton ('04-'06)

AB9FH

Joe Sturmberg ('04-'06) KA9DFZ

Jerry Wahlen ('03-'05) WA9CGE

Dick Wood ('03-'05)

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P.O. Box 070695
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695
or w9rh@arrl.net

### MILWAUKEE AREA NETS

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY	DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily5:00	) - 7:15 AM	3.9850	Badger Weather Net	Tue.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net.
Daily	6:00 PM	1.8950	Mideast 160 m. Net	Wed.	8:00 PM	28.3650	10/10 Internat. (Milw. Ch.) (SSB)
Daily	6-8:00 AM	14.2900	Milwaukee / Florida (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	145.1300	ARRL voice news
Daily	7:30 AM	144.1550	Breakfast RoundTable (SSB)	Wed.	8:00 PM	147.2700+	Weather & Swap net.
Daily	6:30 PM	3.6450	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic	Thu.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 mtr. SSB Net.
Daily	9:30 PM	3.9725	Country Cousins Net	Thu.	9:00 PM	146.9100-	Computer Net
MonSa	t.12:00 PM	28.3800	10/10 International Net	<u>Fri</u>	8:30 PM	28.4900	MRAC W9RH 10 m. Net (SSB)
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.8650-	ARES Net (Walworth and ARRL news)	<u>Fri.</u>	9:00 PM	145.3900-	W9RH 2 m. FM Net after 10mtr.
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.4450	Emergency Net	Sat	9:00 PM	146.9100-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Mon.	8:45 PM	146.6700-	ARRL voice news (ARES)	Sun.	8:30 AM	3.9850	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m.SSB NET	Sun.	9:00 AM	145.5650	X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Mon.	9:00 PM	147.1650+	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)	Sun.	10:00 AM	443.8000+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Bar.
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.1600	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifters' SSB Net	SWAPnet			
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.2500	Badger Contesters (SSB)	Sun.	8:00 PM	28.3650	10/10 Int. (MKE Ch.) (SSB)
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.0350-	A.F.A.R. (CW)	Sun.	8:00 PM	146.9100-	Information Net
Tue.	8:30 PM	223.5000	X-Country Simplex Group (FM)	Sun.	9:00 PM	146.9100-	Swap Net

2 meter repeaters are offset by 600KHz -- 70 centimeter repeaters are offset by 5 MHz SSB frequencies below 20 meters are LSB and for 20 mtrs and above are USB

### **HAMATEUR** (LATTER

HamateurChatter is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club) which is a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.00 per year and run on a calendar year starting with January 1.

MRAC general membership meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. the last Thursday of the month except for November (3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving) and December, when we have our Christmas Dinner.

Meetings are held at:

Redemption Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 4057 N. Mayfair Rd. Milwaukee, WI

### **Credits**

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

KA9AJF AB9EK KB9Q ARRL W9JBE W9UQ WA9CGE WB9PTC KF9XL KC9CI

Our thanks goes out to:

Rita Doneis for proofreading the 'Chatter.

Dick Wood for mailing the hard copy of the 'Chatter.

Joe Schwarz, who Emails the 'Chatter.

Howard Parks, who administers our Web Site.



Ted Stiller for obtaining and serving refreshments at our meetings.

Tom Sherlowsky and Jacquie Horwitz for taking care of the raffle at the meetings.

Mark Tellier, Tom Czaja, John Kraak and Tom Fuszard who are our VEC's.

Thank YOU!

## Typoglycemia

See how fast you can read this.....

Don't overlook this because it looks weird. Believe it or not you CAN read it .....

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid Aoccdrnig to rscheearch taem at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Such a cdonition is arppointely cllaed Typoglycemia:)-

Amzanig huh? Yaeh and yuo awlyas thought slpeling was ipmorantt.

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2/24/05

Meeting called to order by Howard, AB9FH, the club's vice president, at 7:05 p.m. Introductions were made and we welcomed the visitors, Mark, KB9SFD and his son, Brian, and a young man by the name of Taylor who was brought by John, WB9PSE.

Tom, AB9EK, read the minutes from the January meeting. A motion was made by Pancho and seconded by Bill to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed. Tom also gave the treasurer's report for the month. Again a motion was made by Sherm and seconded by Pancho to approve the report as read. Motion passed.

Buzz Talk; Joe, KA9DFZ, stated that the bands are opening up. Warren, K9IZV. stated that the person causing interference on some of the local repeaters and a police department has been located appropriate action is being taken. Rick, WB9GYT, stated he had contacted the Milwaukee Public Library to see if they could obtain the book "Secret Wireless War" and they have. He had the book at the meeting. Sherm, KB9Q, thanked all the participants of the FM contest. He stated that there was more activity than last year, especially on 220. Sherm would like to see someone new as chairman of the FM contest so that he can turn in his scores. Tom asked if the contest could also be run in the summer and Sherm thought that an August contest might be possible and would like to see other clubs promote the event. Howard asked for a

show of hands of how many people check into the club's 10 and 2 meter nets. Sherm suggested having the 10 meter net on a different band so that more might be able to check in. He stated that he has trouble hearing any of the stations that check in. Jerry, WA9CGE, suggested a different day for the net. Something the Board will have to look into. Rick, WB9GYT, would like the Board to look into sending out a post card, once a year, to all the hams in the local area with our club's meeting dates, repeater frequencies, and net frequencies on it. The post card should be a bright color so that it stands out and send it out near the end of the year.

Howard stated that the Tech class has started and has 10 students in it. He also stated that he is working on a presentation for a new club web page.

Pancho apologized for all the errors that were in the Chatter. He stated that he had sent out the wrong file. A corrected version will be posted on the club web page.

Dave DeFebo stated that he has copies of old club rosters from 1946 to 1970. If anyone would like them see Dave, otherwise, they will be thrown out. He has copies for the club history files.

Joe stated that the promotional flyers are in local schools and he had contacted the Boy and Girl Scouts and will be sending flyers to them. He also stated that he will issue a certificate of membership to all club members who would want one at the next meeting.

New Business: Up coming amateur radio activities, March 13th the Wisconsin QSO party, Amateur Radio Military Service in May and kid's day in June. Warren stated that there will be severe weather training at the ARES meeting on March 1st

at the Red Cross building and on March 19th at the MRC club meeting at Mayfair mall. All hams are welcome to attend. Joe had brought in an amp system for the night's meeting. It worked OK, but members in the back still had trouble hearing what was being said. Joe made a motion that the club purchases a PA system. Dave stated that Patrick should have the club's PA system which has two eight inch speakers, but is a handful to carry back and fourth. Ted stated that there is a battery operated PA system that is being used at the raffle table. That could also be used during the meetings. A show of hands was asked for to look into the purchase of a PA system for around \$200.00. Most members want the club to look into purchasing a PA system that can be used at club meetings and events.

It was asked how many have seen the ARRL television ad. Not many have seen it.

Jerry, WA9CGE, stated that the club needs a chairman for our field day event. He suggests that maybe three members share the job, take shifts. This is also the club's picnic. No one stepped up for the job.

A motion to adjourn was made by Pancho and seconded by Bill. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m..

Respectfully submitted by,

Tom Schulte

Tom, AB9EK Secretary

### ARES REPEATER FREQUENCY CHANGE: REMINDERS!

Hello

The ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) repeater has recently changed frequency. The new frequency is 147.165 MHz+ offset with a PL of 127.3 Hz.

73's

Phil, KC9CI

MRAC VEC held VE testing on February 26, 2005 at AES. There were 10 examinees, and 7 were successful in either upgrading or in qualifying for their initial license. Twelve Elements were administered, and eight were passed. VE's who helped out at the session included the following:

Mark Bye ----- KB9LDX Tom Czaja ----- KG9EE Bernie Golownia - AA9CI Nels Harvey----- WA9JOB Les Hundt----- AB9EY Bob Immekus ---- W9CYI John Kraak ----- KF9XL Mark Tellier ----- AB9CD Ron Yokes----- W9BCK

Our next exam session is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2005 at AES. This session is held in conjunction with the AES Superfest, and the session runs from a.m. to noon. However, no exams will be started after 11:15 since we must vacate the exam room at noon.

John (KF9KL)

John, KF9XL

## FIELD DAY **OLUNTEERS**

Jerry, WA9CGE has again volunteered his services as Field Day chairman **PROVIDING** that he can get some volunteers to help out.

He needs help with setup and / or tear down as well as during the evening. The days and dates are Sat. - June 25 and Sun. - June 26.

We'll be starting early on Sat. and finishing at about noon on Sun.

Sat., Apr. 2, 2005 – 9 a.m.. @ AES (AES Superfest) Sat., Apr. 30, 2005 – 9:30 a.m. @ AES Sat., May 7, 2005 – a.m.. – Circle B Rec. Ctr. 6261 Hwy 60 (ORC Swapfest) Sat., May 28, 2005 – 9:30 a.m. @ AES Sat., Jul. 30, 2005 – 9:30 a.m. @ AES **AES** is Amateur Electronic Supply

5710 W. Good Hope Rd. Milwaukee, WI

73, John (KF9KL) KF9XL

Please, check in to our nets on Friday evenings.

Our Ten meter SSB net is at 8:30 p.m. at 28.490 MHz. USB

Our Two meter FM net follows at 9:00 PM on our repeater at 145.390 MHz with a minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz.

Join us for Saturday morning breakfast at Maxim's Restaurant, 18025 W. Capitol Dr. We usually meet at around 8:00 AM, and order around 8:15 AM.





deadline The for items to be published in **HamateurChatter** is the 7th day of each month. If you • have anything for the 'Chatter, please get it to me before then.

You may contact me by e-mail at:

pancho@thepark.net

or by snailmail at:

Pancho Doneis - KA9OFA 1958 N. 38th St. Milwaukee, WI 53208

or by phone at:

## HELP!!!

From: Peter F Smith To: John Kraak

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2005 12:36

PM

Subject: Looking for some help

John,

Once the weather clears up (and warms up a bit) I'll be looking for someone to help me with installing my vertical antenna. Obviously, I don't climb up on roofs anymore... I am wondering if you know of anyone in the MRAC that does that sort of thing for a fee. If you do, please drop me a note and let me know. Thanks and 73.

Peter F. Smith KC9HEL 6100 N 95th Street Milwaukee, WI 53225 smithpeter@sbcglobal.net



Peter Smith is a 50ish physically handicapped man who went from no license to General class at our last VE session. I told him that I would pass his request on to one of our club officers who may know of someone who could help him. Thanks for your help.

73,

John (KF9KL)

John, KF9XL

### **J-Poles**

## FROM THE BENCH AND DESK OF THE ANTENNA MAN, JERRY, WASCGE

"What is a 'J' Pole Antenna? The 'J' • Pole antenna is a 1/2 wavelength radiator with a 1/4 wavelength matching stub." The length of the 1/2 wavelength radiator is determined by calculating its length us-• ing the standard 468' / Frequency (MHz) • formula (the same as used in calculating a • wire dipole. The length of the 1/4 wavelength matching stub is calculated using the free-space 1/4 wavelength formula • (246'/Frequency (MHz), multiplied by the • velocity factor (v / f) of the section used • (the "J") as a transmission line. For TV twin lead (300 ohm) "J" poles this factor is 0.85; and for copper 1/2 inch pipe this factor is 0.95. The attachment point for • the feedline (using 50 ohm coax) is ad-• justed for the best SWR (standing-waveratio), but starts at 0.015 wavelengths from the "U" end of the matching stub (or "J"). The copper "J" width between the main radiator and the 1/4 wavelength is also variable, but for the purposes of building an antenna of a wide bandwidth the 0.0125 wavelengths is used.

In some cases coaxial cable feeding the "J" pole can require a balun matching transformer to get the SWR to a usable value. In the case of copper "J" pole antennas the standard RG-8M (50 ohm) cable can be made to perform as a balun by adding ferrite transformer core(s), type 43 material, over the end of the cable, approximately 12-15 inches from the end of the attachment point. This makes the cores "work and smooth" at the highest point of R.F. current along the coaxial cable. The cores can be held in place with a wrap of electrical tape.

Some Scenes from Field Day 2004



Jerry Wahlen, WA9CGE 2004 Field Day Chairman



Jim Tromblay, Wb9LNU Longtime Field Day icon



Ken, W9MOT & Les, AB9EY nailing down another contact



Howard AB9FH workin' HOT 10 meters

### **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION CTR.**

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is a part of a national amateur organization known as the American Radio Relay League. Our local organization is known as the Milwaukee / Waukesha ARES, which is funded by the Amateur Radio Emergency Corp., Inc. AREC Inc, is incorporated locally as a 501-C-3 "not-for-profit" Wisconsin Corporation. Because we are a "not for profit" organization, we are always looking for monetary support from local organizations. Any leads or suggestions would be appreciated. Our mission is: To serve public safety agencies, charitable and civic organizations by providing communication for events and major emergencies. Emergency preparedness and interoperability have been and continue to be our goals. Interoperability is the process of bringing many emergency agencies and their many different types of radios together so that they can talk to each other.

Our project is the assembly of a Mobile Emergency Communication Center. In 1999 we purchased a 1978 van from the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club. For the last five years, we have built the van into a fully equipped Mobile Emergency Communication Center with VHF, UHF, AM Air Craft, Trunking radios, ACU-1000 radio computer patching network, Cell and Satellite phone systems, Computer networking and state of the art Amateur radio equipment ready to respond to any emergency and support operations for General Mitchell International Airport, Milwaukee County Emergency Management and adjacent counties to Milwaukee.

Besides the van being available to Milwaukee and surrounding counties if needed, ARES also supplies coordinating communication for civic activities including, Multiple Sclerosis walk, Bike ride (Best Dam Bike Tour), Miller Ride for the Arts, Trek 100 Bike Ride, National Disaster Medical Service Drill, and Airport Disaster Drill. Recently we assisted in communications coordination of the Harley-Davidson anniversary, also, the visit of President George W. Bush at



Concordia University, on behalf of the FBI.

Our story is told far and wide by word of mouth. Our supporters in the emergency services use every opportunity they have to tell their colleagues about our equipment and services. Cooperation between Amateur Radio organizations and the emergency response agencies in other cities has increased through these contacts. We also take pride in letting people know about our supporters and the way they helped us.

In summary we continue to update our present technology installed and are always looking for new technology to keep pace with the constantly changing homeland security environment.

Phillip Rebensburg KC9CI

### **FM SIMPLEX CONTEST RESULTS**

The 2005 edition of The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club's FM simplex contest was again a success, with at least 41 stations noted in the logs and 26 entries received. However, I feel that we still have not achieved our goal of exposing more new amateurs to the challenge of simplex operation and the need to expand and enhance their stations for that type of operating.

When the entry to the hobby was via the Novice License a new amateur was forced to think outside the box to create a station that could communicate; potentially world wide. Now a new ham just has to open the box!

The high point of the contest for me was eight QSO's with N9UX, Joe as he operated mobile between two grids with HT power on all four bands; truly a magnificent effort. Also, I • was pleased to see the increased activity on 1.25 meters – I had 6 QSO's last year on the band • and 16 this year!

Thanks to all that participated this year. And, remember, FM contacts count in all the

Sherm KR9O

## CLUB TALLY RESULTS

BADGER CONTESTERS 9168
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB 3564
MILWAUKEE REPEATER CLUB 1737
OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB 767

## CONTEST WINNERS!!

N9UX, JOE FIRST OVERALL FIRST HT HIGH 2.0 METER BAND (TIE) HIGH 0.7 METER BAND

W9GA, KEN SECOND OVERALL HIGH 2 METER BAND (TIE) HIGH 1.25 METER BAND

N9IDX, MILAN SECOND HT

KC9GPJ, DAVID FIRST SWL

**N9XRO, JACK** HIGH 6.0 METER BAND (TIE)

KC9AYO, D.J.
HIGH 6.0 METER BAND (TIE)

**K9RZZ, JOHN** SECOND, 1.25 METER BAND

### **BADGER CONTESTERS**

HIGH CLUB SCORE (CERTIFICATE AND PERPETUAL PLAQUE)

### MRAC General Meeting

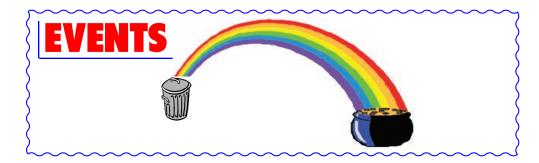
Thu. - Mar. 31, 2005 Redemption Lutheran Church Milwaukee, WI

### SuperFest \*

Fri. & Sat. - Apr. 1 & 2,2005 AES Milwaukee, WI

North Shore Radio Club HamFest \*
SAT.. - APR. 16, 2005
LAKE CO. FAIRCROUNDS
Grayslake, IL
T/I on 147.345+ rptr
or 146.52 simp

2005 Madison HamFest \*
and Computer Show
SUN. - APR. 17, 2005
Mandt Community Ctr.
Stoughton, WI
T/I on 147.150 (123 Hz) rptr



SEWFARS Flea Market Sun. - Apr. 24, 2005 Richfield Chalet Hubertus, WI

MRAC General Meeting Thu. - Apr. .28, 2005 Redemption Lutheran Church Milwaukee, WI

Ozaukee Radio Club Cedarburg SwapFest \* SAT. - MAY 7, 2005 Circle B Recreation Center Cedarburg , WI DAYTON HAMVENTION
May 20-21-22, 2005
<a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>
index.html

MRAC General Meeting Thu. - May 26, 2005 Redemption Lutheran Church Milwaukee, WI

\* <u>indicates</u>
VE testing is available.

# QST - AMATEUR RADIO SPECTRUM PROTECTION ACT OF 2005 INTRODUCED

ARLB007 Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 Introduced

At the urging of the ARRL, Rep Michael Bilirakis (R-FL) has introduced The Amateur Spectrum Protection Act of 2005 into the US House of Representatives. The bill, designated HR 691, has been referred to the House Energy Commerce Committee and where Bilirakis serves vice chairman. Like previous versions of the proposal, the current measure would require the FCC to provide "equivalent spectrum" replacement Amateur Radio if the FCC reallocates primary amateur reduces frequencies, secondary amateur allocations, or makes additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to amateurs.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says the legislation "is vital for ensuring that the Amateur Radio Service, the only 100 percent fail safe emergency communication capability, remains a viable public safety option."

references HR 691 Amateur Radio's role in providing "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and it points out that hams have "consistently and reliably" provided communication support in the event of emergencies and disasters including tornadoes and hurricanes, chemical spills, forest fires and rail accidents. As the measure notes, FCC actions already have led to the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs.

Rep Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) has signed on as the bill's first co-sponsor.

Efforts now will focus on attracting additional cosponsors for the legislation. The League is encouraging

members to urge their congressional representatives to sign aboard HR 691. More than 100 lawmakers agreed to cosponsor similar legislation in the 108th Congress, where it was designated HR 713. Work is proceeding to have identical legislation introduced in the US Senate.

The text of HR 691 is available on the Government Printing Office Web site http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109\_cong\_bills &docid=f:h691ih.txt.pdf.

NNNN /EX



Vol.13 No. 03 - March, 2005

The next Meeting of M.R.A.C. will be Thursday, March 31, 2005 at 7:00 PM at:

### **Redemption Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.
(Use the south entrance)
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

TIM (DICINITED MCCESSIDEE

Please, DON'T call the church.

Our Repeater

145.390 MHz - offset with PL of 127.3 Hz

Use it or lose it.

HAMATEURCHATTER

Program General Membership Meeting on
March 31, 2005
Will be a program on
Digital Photography
by
Patrick Moretti,
W9UQ

Visit our website at http://www.qsl.net/mrac/

Our phone (414) 332-MRAC 332-6 7 2 2



Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club P.O. Box 070695 Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695

